



NUCLEAR BLAST



A nuclear blast is the result of a device that uses a nuclear reaction to create an explosion far more powerful than that of conventional explosives. When nuclear weapons or improvised nuclear devices (INDs) explode, they give off energy in the form of a blast wave, intense light, heat, and radiation.

HAS IT HAPPENED LOCALLY?

There has never been a Nuclear Blast hazard in Howard County (1945-2014).

WHAT IS THE ONGOING RISK?

There is an expected **<1-10% Annual Likelihood** of a Nuclear Blast hazard in Howard County. In the most likely Nuclear Blast scenario, the **Total Impact is considered Catastrophic**. In the worst-case scenario, the **Total Impact is considered Catastrophic**.

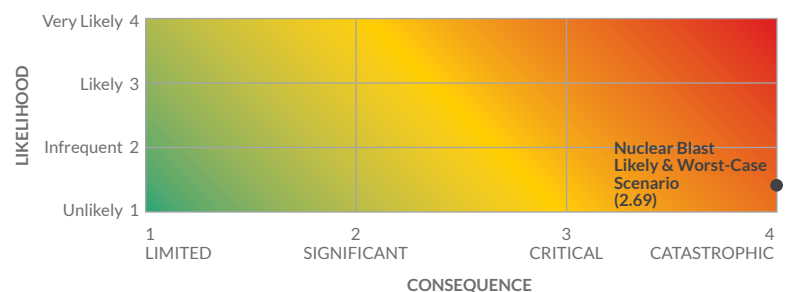
DID YOU KNOW?

- The electromagnetic pulse (EMP) emitted by a Nuclear Blast can easily span across states.
- A large Nuclear Blast can cause/result in radioactive contamination that remains hazardous for up to 10 years.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Howard County Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment readyhoco.com/hazards
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services remm.nlm.gov/nuclearexplosion.htm
- Ready.gov ready.gov/nuclear-blast
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention cdc.gov/cdcgrandrounds/archives/2010/03-march.htm

RISK MATRIX



LOCAL RISK OVERVIEW

| | | |
|----------------------------|--|--------------|
| Future Likelihood | Unlikely-Infrequent < 1-10% chance of annual occurrence | |
| Impact | MOST-LIKELY | WORST-CASE |
| | Catastrophic | Catastrophic |
| Risk Score | 2.69 | 2.69 |
| Risk Ranking (High to Low) | Ranked #4 of 16 man-made hazards. | |

NUCLEAR BLAST IMPACT

Where no Worst-Case bar is visible, Worst-Case impact is equivalent to Likely Impact

